

Application No. 10/711,988
Docket No. A4-1854
Amendment dated May 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action of February 7, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Existing saddle micrometers have ~~from~~ several shortcomings that involve compromises in weight, rigidity, balance and operation. In terms of weight and rigidity, existing saddle micrometers have taken two approaches: either ignore weight for the sake of rigidity, which results in a unit that operators find difficult to handle but will provide accurate readings; or reduce weight to provide a unit that can be more easily handled, sacrificing rigidity to the extent that imprecise readings may occur. This problem is exacerbated if electronic probes are used, since the unit is constantly in motion as readings are taken. Nonetheless, lighter-weight units have generally been more widely accepted because of the difficulty in handling the heavier, more rigid units. Existing saddle micrometers are also generally top heavy, with the result that the units are more prone to slip off the top of a roll. In the event of slipping off a roll, if a heavier unit is used the unit will probably not be damaged but the operator is at risk of injury. On the other hand, if a lightweight unit slides off a roll, the unit is much more likely to be damaged.